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We claim:

1. Colorant preparations comprising
  - A) at least one dispersed (A1) or dissolved (A2) colorant,
  - B) a dispersant in the case of a colorant (A1),
  - C) a low molecular weight polytetrahydrofuran (C1), if desired in mixture with one or more high-boiling water-soluble or -miscible organic solvents (C2), and
  - D) water
- as essential constituents.
2. Colorant preparations as claimed in claim 1, including, in each case based on the weight of the preparation,
  - from 0.01 to 20% by weight of said component (A),
  - from 0.01 to 20% by weight of said component (B) if the colorant is present in an essentially undissolved state,
  - from 0.1 to 40% by weight of said component (C), and
  - not less than 50% by weight of said component (D).
3. Colorant preparations as claimed in claim 1 or 2, including as component (C1) one or more polytetrahydrofurans having an average molecular weight  $M_w$  of from 150 to 500 g/mol.
4. Colorant preparations as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, including from 1 to 10% by weight of said component (C1) and from 1 to 30% by weight of said component (C2).
5. Colorant preparations as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, including as component (C2) one or more solvents selected from the group consisting of polyhydric alcohols, polyethylene glycols, polypropylene glycols, polyethylene glycol monoalkyl ethers, polypropylene glycol monoalkyl ethers, pyrrolidone and N-alkylpyrrolidones.
6. Colorant preparations as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5, including as component (C2), in each case based on the weight of the preparation, from 1 to 10% by weight of glycerol,

sorbitol and/or propylene glycol, from 1 to 10% by weight of polyethylene glycol having an average molecular weight  $M_w$  of from 300 to 500 g/mol and from 1 to 10% by weight of di- and/or triethylene glycol mono- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl ether.

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7. Colorant preparations as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6, including as component (A) a finely divided organic or inorganic pigment.
- 10 8. Colorant preparations as claimed in any of claims 1 to 7, including as component (B) a dispersant based on arylsulfonic acid-formaldehyde condensation products (B1), on alkoxyated phenols (B2) on condensation products of an at least difunctional isocyanate with compounds (B3) each bearing one
- 15 isocyanate-reactive group, on alkoxyated hydroxynaphthalenes (B4) or on alkoxylation products of at least difunctional aliphatic or aromatic amines having up to 8 carbon atoms (B5).
- 20 9. Colorant preparations as claimed in any of claims 1 to 8, further comprising urea and a polyether siloxane copolymer.
10. Colorant preparations as claimed in any of claims 1 to 9, further comprising a thermally or radiation-chemically
- 25 curable binder.
11. The use of colorant preparations as set forth in any of claims 1 to 10 as inks for the ink-jet process.
- 30 12. A process for printing sheetlike or three-dimensionally configured substrates by the ink-jet process, which comprises printing colorant preparations as set forth in any of claims 1 to 10 onto the substrate and, if desired, subsequently fixing the print obtained.

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## Colorant preparations

## Abstract

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Colorant preparations comprise

- A) at least one dispersed (A1) or dissolved (A2) colorant,
- 10 B) a dispersant in the case of a colorant (A1),
- C) a low molecular weight polytetrahydrofuran (C1), if desired in mixture with one or more high-boiling water-soluble or -miscible organic solvents (C2), and

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- D) water

as essential constituents.

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